GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:566
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
ESTIMATED GOLD RESERVES IN THE COUNTRY
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated gold reserves in the country at present, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the total annual production and the domestic demand during each of the last three years till date, separately, State and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether some States, which are believed to have gold reserves but could not tap them;

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a): As per National Mineral Inventory prepared by Indian Bureau of Mines, as on 1.4.2005, the total reserves of gold ore(Primary) are estimated at 19.25 million tonnes. State-wise details are as under:

(in million tonnes)

State	Total reserves
Andhra Pradesh	1.54
Jharkhand	0.09
Karnataka	17.62

(b): The total annual production of gold during the last three years is as under:

(in tonnes)

State	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Karnataka	3.501	2.846	2.336
Jharkhand	0.025	0.201	0.154
Gujarat (as by product)	5.154	6.710	10.335
Total	8.680	9.757	12.825

The domestic consumption of gold during 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 has been 791.136 tonnes, 733.103 tonnes and 725.888 tonnes respectively.

(c) to (e): The production of gold depends on mining which would commence only after detailed exploration activities are completed. Mining for gold is undertaken in Jharkhand and Karnataka. Since 1.4.2004 till 31.3.2007, Central Government`s approval has been conveyed for grant of 2 mining leases and 3 prospecting licences for gold and details are available at the website of Ministry of Mines(http://mines.nic.in).